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4), the former is pushed into the space between the jaws 32 and 34 so that the rearward surfaces 64 engage the jaws 32 and 34 and the rearward edge 68 is pushed between the upper and lower teeth 36 and 38 and protrude rearwardly beyond it. The operator holds the applicator 24 in this deformed position in one hand while he holds the handle 22 in the other hand, and then squeezes the handle 22. This action pushes the upper and lower arms 26 and 28 and their jaws 32 and 34 toward one another, so that the upper and lower teeth 36 and 38 embed themselves in the rearwardly-projecting deformed portion 94 of the applicator 24 which has been pushed between them. At the same time, the operator by means of his index finger or thumb moves the head 42 of the locking tongue 40 into alignment with the slot portion 52 so as to pass therethrough, whereupon he releases it. The resilience of the tongue 40 then causes it to move forward into the position shown in FIGURES 1, 2 and 3 with its shank 46 passing through the narrow portion 50 of the T-slot 48 (FIGURE 3). In this manner, the operator locks the arms 26 and 28 and their jaws 32 and 34 in their closed positions shown in FIGURES 1, 2 and 3, firmly gripping the applicator 24 between them.

The operator then grasps the handle 22 in the manner of grasping the handle of a paint brush and employs it in a similar manner, applying the forward edge 66 against the surfaces to be painted, and employing a sweeping motion for covering those surfaces. To paint straight lines, such as in signs, the operator may conveniently rest one of the flat sides 62 or 64 of the applicator 24 against a straight edge. During the painting operation, the operator easily controls the flow of liquid, such as paint, by pressing slightly upon the applicator 24 in order to cause the liquid to flow out from the pores 60. The applicator 24, being free from fibers, does not show the brush strokes formed by the hairs or bristles of ordinary paint brushes and, of course, there are no such hairs or bristles to become detached and contaminate the paint itself.

As previously stated, the right-angled applicator 80 or the approximately right-angled applicator 24 are well adapted to painting in the angle between two mutually perpendicular surfaces, such as the side wall and ceiling or floor of a room, without contaminating the one with paint intended for the other. As also previously stated, the operator can select any one of the variously-shaped applicators 70 to 78 inclusive and mount it in the handle 22 in the manner described above, in order to facilitate the coating or painting of different types of shapes or surfaces. The pointed applicator 76 of FIGURE 10, for example, is conveniently used for stippling or for lettering or the like.

When the operator has finished the painting or other liquid-coating job, or has arrived at the end of a day's work, he detaches the applicator 24 or the applicator 70, 72, 74, 76, 78 or 80 being otherwise used, by moving the head 42 of the locking tongue 40 into alignment with the transverse slot 52, whereupon the jaws 32 and 34 of the arms 26 and 28 are permitted to spring apart into their open position of FIGURE 4. The applicator 24, being thus released from its gripped position of FIGURE 1, is dropped into a trash can or otherwise disposed of. When the work is resumed, or a new job is started, the operator inserts and grips a new applicator 24 or one of

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the modified applicators of FIGURES 7 to 12 inclusive between the jaws 32 and 34 in the manner described above and proceeds as set forth herein.

What I claim is:

1. A quick-acting clamping handle for grasping a liquid applicator of porous resilient material having a tapered rearward mounting portion thereon, said handle comprising
 - a handle structure including a pair of relatively-movable arms having forward ends with relatively-movable applicator clamping jaws thereon bent reversely to and extending rearwardly from said forward ends of said arms at acute angles to said arms with the rearward ends of said jaws movable into and out of close proximity to one another remote from said forward ends of said arms and cooperatively providing a tapered applicator seat therebetween configured to substantially fit the tapered rearward portion of the applicator in the clamping position of said jaws,
 - gripping means on said jaws penetratingly engageable with the applicator for retaining the applicator in said seat,
 - and self-contained quick-acting means for releasably locking and unlocking said jaws in and out of clamping engagement with the mounting portion of the applicator.
2. A quick-acting clamping handle, according to claim 1, wherein said gripping means includes teeth on said rearward ends of both of said jaws engageable with the opposite sides of the applicator.
3. A quick-acting clamping handle, according to claim 2, wherein said teeth are disposed in overlapping relationship with one another in overlapping engageability with the rearward portion of said applicator.
4. A quick-acting clamping handle, according to claim 1, wherein said jaws are approximately flat and wherein said applicator seats between said jaws is of approximately V-shaped cross-section.

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